

**Amendment to the claims**

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

**Listing of claims:**

1-12. (Cancelled)

13. (Currently amended) A dry mixture for forming a fireproofing composition adapted to be spray applied to a steel substrate, said dry mixture comprising a hydraulic binder, a steel substrate adherence and coherence agent in an amount effective for enhancing the adherence and coherence to said steel substrate, and a set retarder, said dry mixture providing, upon the addition of water, a pumpable slurry capable of spray application to a steel substrate and which, after spray application is adherent to said substrate, wherein said hydraulic binder is present in an amount of 90 to 95%, and said substrate adherence and coherence agent is powdered polyvinyl alcohol in an amount of 1-3% The dry mixture of claim 1, wherein said dry mixture further comprises 0.25% alpha-olefin sulfate.

14. (Currently amended) The dry mixture of claim + 13, wherein said dry mixture further comprises 0.25% alpha-olefin sulfate, 0.5% glass fibers, and 1% cellulosic

fibers, 0-2% calcium carbonate, 0.1-0.3% retarder, and 0-2%  
Portland cement.